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STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Statistical Reporting Service, U. S. D. A. Washington, D. C. SS 231 February 23, 1962

Cattle Numbers Up 2 Percent From 1961

The January 1, 1962 inventory of cattle and calves on farms and ranches totaled 99,500,000 head--2 percent above the 97,319,000 head on farms and ranches a year earlier and 7 percent greater than the 1951-60 average of 92,616,000 head.

Commercial cattle slaughter in 1961 totaled 25,609,500 head, up 2 percent from 1960. Calf slaughter at 7,684,200 head was down 7 percent. Live cattle imported from Mexico and Canada during 1961 totaled 1,046,498 head compared with 672,691 head in 1960.

Milk Cow Numbers Decline

According to the Crop Reporting Board the number of milk cows and dairy replacement heifers continued to decline, showing a 1 percent drop from a year earlier. This reduction was more than offset by a 3 percent increase in other cattle, mostly beef-type. The January 1 total for all cattle is the highest of record for this date and this is the 4th consecutive year cattle numbers have shown an increase.

Hogs Are Three Percent Higher This Year

The number of hogs on farms January 1, 1962, at 56,982,000 head, was 3 percent more than the 55,443,000 hogs a year earlier and 4 percent above the 10-year average.

All of the Corn Belt (12 North Central) States showed increases over last year. On January 1, 1962 these States accounted for 77 percent of the United States total. Iowa, the leading hog State, with 23 percent of the total, showed a 4 percent increase over last year. Increases in other important States included: Illinois up 8 percent, Indiana 5 percent, Missouri 1 percent, Ohio 2 percent, and Nebraska 8 percent. In the 36 States outside the Corn Belt, January 1 inventory numbers were larger than a year earlier in 5 States, the same in 6, and down in the remaining 25 States.

The number of hogs under 6 months of age totaled 37,959,000 head--up 2 percent from last year. The fall pig crop which accounts for most of the pigs under 6 months of age was 4 percent larger than the 1960 fall crop. Sows and gilts at 8,056,000 head were 3 percent above a year earlier. Hogs 6 months and older (excluding sows and gilts for breeding), at 10,967,000 head, were up 6 percent from January 1, 1961.

Sheep And Lamb Numbers Decline 4 Percent

Stock sheep and lambs on farms and ranches declined 4 percent during the past year and totaled 27,281,000 head on hand January 1, 1962.

This was the smallest inventory since 1958 and compares with the 1951-60 average January 1 number of 27,437,000 head. Sheep and lambs on feed for market totaled 4,165,000 head--nearly 6 percent below the level of a year earlier. The number of all sheep and lambs (stock numbers plus those on feed for market) at 31,446,000 head was 5 percent less than a year earlier.

Goats And Kids Are 4 Percent Above Last Year

The inventory number of goats and kids on Texas farms and ranches on January 1, 1962 was 3,612,000 head, 4 percent above the 3,473,000 on hand January 1, 1961.

One Percent More Chickens Than In 1961

The number of chickens on farms January 1, 1962 (excluding commercial broilers) totaled 365,477,000--1 percent more than a year earlier but 7 percent less than the 1951-60 average.

Prices of Farm Products

Commodity	Average Prices received by farmers		Effective parity prices
	Dec. 15 1961	Jan. 15 1962	Based on data for Jan. 1962
Basic commodities:			
Cotton, Amer. upland (lb.).....ct.	31.79	30.44	39.09
Wheat (bu.).....dol.	1.89	1.87	2.43
Rice (100 lb.).....dol.	5.23	5.31	6.20
Corn (bu.).....dol.	.947	.951	1.60
Peanuts (lb.).....ct.	11.4	11.3	13.4
Designated nonbasic commodities:			
Butterfat in cream (lb).....ct.	61.1	61.0	76.0
Milk, wholesale (100 lb.).....dol.	4.46	¹ 4.36	5.23
Wool (lb.).....ct.	² 40.8	² 41.1	73.3
Other nonbasic commodities:			
Barley (bu.).....dol.	1.01	1.03	1.26
Cottonseed (ton).....dol.	51.50	50.90	62.60
Flaxseed (bu.).....dol.	3.16	3.14	3.83
Hay, baled (ton).....dol.	20.70	21.60	25.80
Oats (bu.).....dol.	.659	.665	.839
Potatoes (cwt.).....dol.	1.17	1.13	2.37
Rye (bu.).....dol.	1.05	1.02	1.44
Sorghum, grain (100 lb.).....dol.	1.65	1.65	2.50
Soybeans (bu.).....dol.	2.30	2.32	2.94
Sweetpotatoes (cwt.).....dol.	4.97	5.09	5.96
Oranges, on tree (box).....dol.	2.34	2.15	2.66
Apples, for fresh use (bu.).....dol.	2.35	2.38	2.93
Beef cattle (100 lb.).....dol.	20.50	20.70	23.50
Calves (100 lb.).....dol.	24.10	24.70	26.10
Hogs (100 lb.).....dol.	16.10	16.50	21.60
Lambs (100 lb.).....dol.	15.50	16.10	24.30
Chickens, all (lb.).....ct.	14.3	15.3	24.3
Eggs (dozen).....ct.	35.0	35.4	47.1

¹Preliminary

²Does not include incentive payment.

Chicken numbers compared with a year earlier were up 8 percent in the West, 6 percent in the South Atlantic, and 5 percent in the South Central region. These increases were partially offset by decreases of 4 percent in the North Atlantic and 2 percent in the North Central States. Chickens on farms January 1 consisted of 218,065,000 pullets, 129,261,000 hens, and 18,151,000 other chickens, compared with 210,076,000 pullets, 132,613,000 hens, and 17,887,000 other chickens on January 1, 1961.

Turkey Numbers Decrease

Turkeys on farms on January 1, 1962 totaled 6,352,000, a decrease of 6 percent from a year earlier, but 18 percent above 1951-60 average. Heavy breeds on January 1, 1962 were estimated at 5,862,000 compared with 6,137,000 on hand January 1, 1961, a decrease of about 4 percent.

Statistical Series of Interest to Agriculture

Item	1961			1962	
	Jan.	Year	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.
	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.	Mil.
Nonfarm employment, (civilian) ¹ ..	59,8	61,3	62,1	62,0	60,6
Farm employment	4,9	7,0	6,3	5,1	4,7
Family	4,0	5,1	4,9	4,1	3,9
Hired	1,0	1,9	1,4	1,0	1,0
Index numbers (1957-59 = 100)					
Industrial production ²	102	109	114	115	114
Total personal income payments ³ ..	111	114	118	118	--
Weekly factory earnings ⁴	99	105	112	112	108
Average earnings of factory workers, per worker ⁴	106	110	114	115	113
Wholesale prices, all commodities ⁴ ..	101	100	100	100	101
Farm commodities	98	96	96	96	98
Food, processed	102	101	100	101	102
Consumer price index ⁴	104	104	104	104	--
Food	103	103	102	102	--
Index numbers (1910-14 = 100)					
Prices received by farmers	241	240	238	240	242
Crops	218	226	223	224	224
Food grains	207	209	218	219	218
Feed grains and hay	146	151	149	150	152
Cotton	233	259	280	269	257
Tobacco	508	524	530	544	538
Oil bearing crops	231	257	248	250	250
Fruit	254	245	209	217	209
Commercial vegetables	212	221	213	213	252
Livestock and products	261	251	250	255	256
Meat animals	304	299	291	299	304
Dairy products	271	259	275	273	266
Poultry and eggs	165	146	140	146	149
Prices paid by farmers					
All commodities	277	276	276	277	278
Used in living	291	292	291	292	293
Used in production	267	266	265	267	268
Commodities, interest, taxes, and wage rates (parity index) ...	301	301	301	302	304
Farm wage rates, seasonally adjusted	635	641	635	635	652
Parity ratio (prices received to parity index)	80	80	79	79	80

Light breeds on hand totaled 490,000, compared with 633,000 last year, a decrease of 23 percent. By regions, turkeys on hand January 1 compared with a year earlier decreased 27 percent in the South Central, 12 percent in the West North Central, 9 percent in the South Atlantic, and 4 percent in the East North Central States. Increases were 5 percent in the West and 3 percent in the North Atlantic regions.

Breeder hens on farms January 1, 1962 totaled 3,828,000, compared with 4,342,000 a year earlier--a decrease of 12 percent.

Winter Potato Outlook Improves Slightly

Improved yield prospects for late planted acreage in Florida added to the expected winter potato production. However, the current forecast of 4,229,000 hundredweight is 15 percent smaller than last year and 2 percent less than average.

Freezes Lower Citrus Output 6 Percent

Estimated production of citrus was down 6 percent as of February 1 from the forecast a month earlier, with oranges off 4 percent and grapefruit off 13 percent. Even so, production of oranges is expected to be 5 percent larger than in 1960-61, but that of grapefruit 6 percent smaller. Compared with last year, there are more lemons, limes, and tangelos, but fewer tangerines. These crops suffered no appreciable freeze damage.

Livestock and Livestock Products

Item	Unit	Jan.-Dec. 1960	Jan.-Dec. 1961
Dairy Production			
Milk.....	Bil. lb.	¹ 9,9	¹ 10,1
Evaporated whole milk	Mil. lb.	2,177.3	2,119.7
Dry nonfat milk solids	Mil. lb.	1,818.4	2,010.5
(for human food)	Mil. lb.	1,372.9	1,494.3
Butter, creamery	Mil. lb.	996.1	1,142.0
Cheese, American	Mil. gal.	698.7	699.5
Ice cream			
Poultry Production			
Eggs	Billions	¹ 5,2	¹ 5,3
Federally inspected slaughter: ²			
Chickens	Mil. lb.	4,071.4	4,685.2
Turkeys	Mil. lb.	948.4	1,256.2
Poultry canned and used in other processed foods	Mil. lb.	404.1	596.6
Liquid egg	Mil. lb.	582.5	632.2
Dried egg (egg solids)	Mil. lb.	46.1	53.2
Frozen egg	Mil. lb.	362.4	370.9
Meat Production (dressed weight) ³			
Beef	Mil. lb.	14,374	14,919
Veal	Mil. lb.	1,025	958
Pork	Mil. lb.	10,863	10,724
Lamb and mutton	Mil. lb.	754	814
Total red meat	Mil. lb.	27,016	27,415

¹ January 1961 and 1962.

² Ready-to-cook.

³ Commercial; excludes farm slaughter.

¹ Bureau of the Census.

² Federal Reserve Board.

³ Department of Commerce.

⁴ Bureau of Labor Statistics--any figures not available at press time omitted.
⁵ 1957 = 100.

Fall Sown Grains Retarded

Snow cover was generally adequate in most areas of the important Central Plains States during the period of extremely low temperatures. Uncovered wheat fields in South Dakota were frozen back, but acreage losses are expected to be light because of the good fall growth. Wheat was also frozen back in Southern Oklahoma and in Texas but most acreage is expected to revive. Winter oats and barley were more severely damaged and some acreage was lost in Oklahoma, Texas, Arkansas, and Louisiana.

Milk Production Above Year Earlier

Milk production during January was about 3 percent above January 1961 and 10 percent larger than the 1951-60 average for the month.

Winter Vegetable Prospects Decline During January

Production of winter vegetables is expected to be 12 percent less than last year and 4 percent under average. The February 1 forecast is 9 percent below January 1 prospects chiefly due to losses in Texas. Significant declines from last year are indicated for cabbage, lettuce, tomatoes and celery. The only vegetables showing material increases over 1961 are carrots, sweet corn, and spinach. Freezing temperatures on January 9 through 12 caused substantial losses in Texas for broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, carrots, and lettuce. Low January temperatures caused little damage in Arizona but brought some reduction to the California lettuce crop. Freezing temperatures extended into Florida vegetable areas on January 3 and 4 and also on the 13th. In spite of the varied freeze damage, most vegetables made a good recovery during the last half of the month, and overall Florida vegetable prospects are improved from January estimates.

Egg Production Above Last Year

The Nation's farm flocks laid 5,275 million eggs during January, compared with 5,180 million eggs a year earlier--an increase of 2 percent. Increases were 10 percent in the South Atlantic, 5 percent in the South Central, 4 percent in the West, and 1 percent in North Atlantic States.

Farm-Retail Price Spreads

Farm-Retail Spread and Farmer's Share of the Consumer's Dollar for Market Basket of Farm-food Products

Year and month	Retail cost ¹	Farm value ²	Farm-retail spread	Farmer's share
1961 average	\$ 1,060	\$ 404	\$ 656	38%
1960 December	1,068	421	647	39%
1961 November	1,045	395	650	38%
1961 December	1,047	405	642	39%

¹ Retail cost of average quantities of farm foods purchased per family in 1952 by urban wage-earner and clerical-worker families calculated from retail prices collected by Bureau of Labor Statistics.

² Payment to farmers for equivalent quantities of farm produce minus imputed value of byproducts obtained in processing.

These increases were partially offset by decreases of 3 percent in the West North Central and 1 percent in the East North Central regions.

The number of layers on February 1, 1962, totaled 305,603,000--1 percent more than a year earlier.

The February 1 rate of lay was 55.4 eggs per 100 layers compared with 55.9 eggs on February 1, 1961.

Cash Receipts from farm marketings, by States, December 1961¹

State	Livestock and products 1,000 Dollars	Crops 1,000 Dollars	Total 1,000 Dollars
Maine	10,245	3,159	13,404
New Hampshire.....	4,024	986	5,010
Vermont	9,815	870	10,685
Massachusetts	8,938	3,993	12,931
Rhode Island	1,370	566	1,936
Connecticut	8,122	2,466	10,588
New York	51,398	12,046	63,444
New Jersey	13,141	5,252	18,393
Pennsylvania.....	47,501	12,049	59,550
Ohio	49,877	24,552	74,429
Indiana	51,334	35,598	86,932
Illinois	98,708	76,451	175,159
Michigan	29,882	30,402	60,284
Wisconsin	83,317	8,892	92,209
Minnesota	86,248	47,535	133,783
Iowa	169,665	77,690	247,355
Missouri	57,696	36,073	93,769
North Dakota	13,805	24,269	38,074
South Dakota.....	37,486	12,301	49,787
Nebraska	54,343	63,359	117,702
Kansas	48,964	39,911	88,875
Delaware	5,388	1,731	7,119
Maryland	14,476	4,555	19,031
Virginia	19,298	27,775	47,073
West Virginia	5,202	2,608	7,810
North Carolina	25,899	36,830	62,729
South Carolina	9,272	13,015	22,287
Georgia	32,474	14,621	47,095
Florida	18,539	62,518	81,057
Kentucky	21,199	124,360	145,559
Tennessee	16,748	54,224	70,972
Alabama	25,739	15,709	41,448
Mississippi	21,364	44,018	65,382
Arkansas	20,361	46,466	66,827
Louisiana	11,094	45,394	56,488
Oklahoma	22,898	41,143	64,041
Texas	78,447	221,059	299,506
Montana	11,318	15,135	26,453
Idaho	17,145	23,581	40,726
Wyoming	6,011	4,707	10,718
Colorado	40,326	25,653	65,979
New Mexico	6,727	15,869	22,596
Arizona	13,321	56,223	69,544
Utah	10,776	2,773	13,549
Nevada.....	2,501	1,390	3,891
Washington	15,993	28,816	44,809
Oregon	14,290	13,038	27,328
California	111,525	196,130	307,655
United States	1,534,210	1,657,761	3,191,971
U. S. Jan.-Dec.	19,244,484	15,509,987	34,754,471
Same period, year ago	18,937,409	15,076,257	34,013,666

¹ All figures represent sales of farm products, plus Commodity Credit loans reported during the month minus Commodity Credit loans repaid during the month. For comparisons of cash receipts with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation.

Cash Receipts From Farming and Index of Volume of Farm Marketings, United States¹

	December 1961	January 1962
CASH RECEIPTS		
	<i>Mil. dol.</i>	<i>Mil. dol.</i>
Total marketings and CCC loans ²	3,192	3,116
Livestock and products	1,534	1,655
Meat animals	837	
Dairy products	401	
Poultry and eggs	268	
Other	28	
Crops	1,658	1,461
Food grains	120	
Feed crops	342	
Cotton (lint and seed)	432	
Oil-bearing crops	148	
Tobacco	188	
Vegetables	95	
Fruits and tree nuts	146	
Other	187	
Government payments	99	
Grand total	3,291	
VOLUME OF FARM MARKETINGS:	1957-59 = 100	
All commodities	145	146
Livestock and products	131	135
Crops	163	161

¹ For comparison with earlier months and years, see issues of the Farm Income Situation. ² Receipts from loans represent value of loans minus value of redemptions during the month.



Hard Winter Reduces Farm Employment

Deep winter brought farm work to a slow pace in January. Throughout the nation, on farms with livestock and poultry, animal feeding and care came first, outranking other work around the farmstead. Little fieldwork was possible in Northern States. Cold weather damage to some vegetables and citrus also curtailed work in some southern areas. The results of these wintry influences held the number of persons working on farms the survey week of January 21-27 to a total of 4,665,000 persons. This number is 4 percent below that of the comparable week last year and is a record low for any month. The total of farm family workers estimated for the survey week was 3,854,000 - 4 percent under January 1961. Hired farm employment totaled 811,000 workers, a reduction of 6 percent from a year earlier, reflecting the low ebb of crop work in most sections. The number of both family workers and hired workers is well below that for any other month in the series of estimates.

Commercial Broilers Up 12 Percent

The preliminary estimates of commercial broiler production during 1961 in the 22 States covered by weekly chick placement reports total 1,841,753,000 birds--up 12 percent from the number produced in 1960 and the largest of record for these States. These 22 States produced 92 percent of the Nation's broilers in 1960. Of the 22 States, 6 produced fewer broilers than in 1960, but increases in the other States particularly the sharp increases in Missouri, North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, and Texas resulted in an over-all increase of 196 million birds.

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